

REMARKS

Claims 55-70, 74, and 76-77 remain in this application. Claims 54, 71-73, and 75 have been cancelled without prejudice and without admitting the appropriateness of the rejections. Claims 55-57, 59-61, 63, 74, 76, and 77 have been amended. No claims have been added. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has indicated that claims 57, 60, 64, 66, 68, and 74-76 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have re-written claims 57, 60, 74, and 76 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Note that claim 74 recites that the thermal interface material comprises a tape or film and is believed to be allowable as claims 74 and 75 were indicated to be allowable. Accordingly, claims 57, 60, 74, and 76, and their respective dependent claims, are believed to be allowable. Claim 55 depends from claim 57, claims 56, 58, 61, 62, and 77 depend from claim 74, and claim 59 depends from claim 76...

The Examiner has additionally stated that claim 63 would be made allowable "by positively reciting that the adhesive is applied to the recited second surface of the phase change material outside of the defined heat transfer area". Applicants have rewritten claim 63 as indicated by the Examiner. Accordingly, claim 63 is believed to be allowable. Claims 64-70 depend from claim 63 and are believed to be allowable therefor, as well as for the recitations set forth in each of these dependent claims.

35 U.S.C. §101 Rejection - Chiu

The Examiner has rejected claim 72 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as claiming the same invention as that of claim 1 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,315,038 issued to Chiu.

Claim 72 has been cancelled, and therefore the rejection is believed to be moot.

35 U.S.C. §102(b) Rejection - Yamagata

The Examiner has rejected claims 54-56, 58, 59, 61-63, 67, 69-73 and 77 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,552,637 issued to Yamagata et al.

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is moot in view of the amendments herein.

35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection - Yamagata and Todman

The Examiner has rejected claims 65 and 77 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,552,637 issued to Yamagata et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,635,917 issued to Todman et al.

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is moot in view of the amendments herein.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed at the earliest possible date.

Request For Telephone Interview

The Examiner is invited to call Brent E. Vecchia at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request For An Extension Of Time

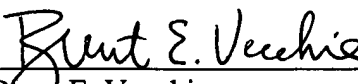
The Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 for such an extension.

Charge Our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

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